

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6454

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 8271

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA IR GW TECH

SUBJECT: FRG NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH IRAN

1. HAUNSCHILD, HEAD OF GERMAN DEL TO IAEA GC, INFORMED KRATZER THAT FRG HELD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH ETEMAD ON FRG/ IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION PRIOR TO ETEMAD'S DEPARTURE FOR VISIT TO ALMELO URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT. ACCORDING TO HAUNSCHILD, ETEMAD PREFERRED DEFER FINAL NEGOTIATIONS OVERALL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT TO LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT YEAR, CITING NEED FOR VARIOUS BUDGETARY AND PROGRAM DECISIONS TO BE MADE. ETEMAD CLAIMED SOME GOI OFFICIALS WERE NOW ADVOCATING 35,000 MW TARGET FOR 1990, AND THAT HE WAS OPPOSING THIS AS BEYOND CAPABILITIES OF IRANIAN NUCLEAR ORGANIZATION. HAUNSCHILD INDICATED FRG AGREED TO THIS SCHEDULE, AND REMARKED THAT THIS WOULD ALLOW FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SUPPLIERS' UNDERSTANDING BEFORE IRANIAN NEGOTIATIONS ARE CONCLUDED.

2. HAUNSCHILD ALSO SAID THAT ETEMAD HAD STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF REPROCESSING TO IRAN, PLACING LESS EMPHASIS ON ENRICHMENT. ETEMAD
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RECOGNIZED THAT NEED FOR REPROCESSING WILL COME

CONSIDERABLY LATER, BUT REPEATEDLY STATED THAT IRAN MUST HAVE "OPTION" TO MAINTAIN INDEPENDENT POSITION IN NUCLEAR POWER. HE ALSO CRITICIZED MULTINATIONAL PLANT CONCEPT, SAYING "WHERE COULD IT BE OTHER THAN IRAN?" HAUNSCHILD REMARKED THAT HE DID NOT CONSIDER IT REASONABLE TO DEPRIVE COUNTRIES SUCH AS IRAN OF OPPORTUNITY TO REPROCESS. HOWEVER, HE CONFIRMED LOOSCH'S STATEMENTS IN LONDON THAT NO FRG/IRANIAN REPROCESSING PROJECT IS BEING DISCUSSED, ALTHOUGH UMBRELLA AGREEMENT UNDER NEGOTIATION PROVIDES FRAMEWORK FOR SUCH COOPERATION. ONLY CONCRETE COOPERATION SO FAR CONSISTS OF TWO REACTOR PROJECTS, UNDER LETTER OF INTENT. PRELIMINARY SITE WORK HAS ALREADY BEGUN ON FIRST UNIT.

3. HAUNSCHILD SAID THAT ETEMAD EMPHASIZED THAT SUPPLIERS SHOULD NOT COME TO IRAN "WITH IDENTICALY LANGUAGE," WHICH WOULD BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO IRAN. COMMENTING ON THIS POINT, KRATZER INFORMED HAUNSCHILD THAT ETEMAD HAD INDICATED HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRENCH AND GERMANS WERE MUCH SMOOTHER THAN WITH U.S. AND THAT HE HOPED SUPPLIERS' CONSENSUS WOULD AVOID ALLOWING IRAN'S TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS SITUATION. TAPE

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